

March 10, 1949.

Dr. A. J. Weil,
The Bronx Hospital,
Bronx 56, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Weil,

Thank you for your solicitous letter. I am sorry to hear that you will not be able to continue your very interesting work.

I came to this department to organize a program of research in microbial genetics, and after the usual preliminary delays, we are now in a favorable position to expand our work. I will be glad to send you our publications as they appear.

Lately, I have started to work on the problem of induced lysogenicity, which is incredibly common not only in staphylococci but in enteric bacteria. The transfer of phage to a symbiotic relationship in a suitable host is rather analogous to type transformation, and I have a suspicion may be very closely connected with it, especially in enterobacteria. At some later date, I hope to be able to look into your report on *Shigella* from this standpoint. Unfortunately, I have lost the strains which you sent me. If there is any danger that they could not be gotten at some future time, I wonder if you could put me on their track.

Yours very sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg,
Assistant Professor of Genetics